

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2006. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Initially, the specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make a number of minor clarifying and other editorial amendments. Due to the nature of the revision involved, a substitute specification and abstract has been prepared. No new matter has been added. Also enclosed is a "marked-up" copy of the original specification and abstract to show the changes that have been incorporated into the substitute specification and abstract. The enclosed copy is entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Next, on page 2 of the Office Action, claim 1 is objected to based on a minor informality. Applicant presumes that claim 11 is actually the subject of the objection. In any event, claim 11 has been amended to adopt the Examiner's suggestion, thereby obviating the objection.

Further, on pages 2-3 of the Office Action, claims 11, 13, 14 and 15 are rejected over the prior art. Also, page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 12 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the limitations of allowable claim 12 have been incorporated into independent claim 11 thereby placing independent claim 11 in allowable form. Furthermore, the inclusion of the limitations of claim 12 into independent claim 11 renders moot the rejections of the claims over the prior art.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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